

Red Flag conditions challenge firefighters on Klondike, Crescent Mountain

The high winds forecast for today remained moderate, with gusts from 20-30 mph, and winds should calm as we enter the week. The next fire-weather pattern of concern will be Wednesday, when thunderstorms may develop over central and eastern Oregon as the energy release component (ERCs) increases. By next weekend a potential for moisture from the northwest increases, and fire risk and ERCs are expected to moderate. Today, initial attack was light and extended attack fires were meeting objectives. Fire activity and control actions on current large fires included airtanker and Type 1 helicopter support on the northwest flank of the Klondike Fire in southwest Oregon, and holding actions on the east side of Crescent Mountain Fire in north-central Washington.

Helpful Links:

- PNW Execs blog: pnwexecs.blogspot.com
- NWCC Blog: <http://nwccinfo.blogspot.com/>
- Oregon Smoke blog: <http://oregonsmoke.blogspot.com/>
- Washington Smoke blog: <http://wasmoke.blogspot.com/>
- 7-Day Fire Potential : <https://gacc.nifc.gov/nwcc/content/products/fw/guidance/DL.pdf>
- Morning Brief: <https://gacc.nifc.gov/nwcc/content/products/intelligence/MORNINGBRIEF.pdf>
- Helpful Wind Map: <https://www.windy.com/?44.143,-119.773,6,i:pressure>

Fire-related articles:

Dozers in the Wilderness: <http://mailtribune.com/news/top-stories/bulldozers-in-the-wild>

Blaze now a megafire: <https://www.currypilot.com/news/6489837-151/blaze-now-a-megafire>

Crystal Fire near Wenatchee: <http://www.khq.com/story/39010192/crystal-fire-near-wenatchee-now-30-percent-contained>

A guide to wildfire preparedness and history: <https://www.bendbulletin.com/localstate/6478309-151/a-guide-to-wildfire-preparedness-and-history>

Emerging Incidents:

Washington:

Crystal Fire: The Crystal Fire was reported overnight, burning mostly in grass on the northeast side of Wenatchee, threatening structures. State mobilization was authorized, and 40 structures were on Level 2 evacuation notice. By this afternoon, the fire was reportedly 2600 acres 87% contained. Some BLM-administered lands were threatened, but it appeared like the fire did not spread in that direction.

Wagon Wheel – Burning 3 miles north of Benton City and threatening structures, with evacuations occurring overnight. Satellite indicates potentially burning on small section of BLM and State lands. It is reportedly 7,500 acres.

MM 44 fire: Crews this afternoon were working on a 3000 acre fire outside of Yakima. Hwy. 97 was closed for burnout operations.

Oregon: *No significant emerging fires reported.*

LARGE INCIDENTS - WASHINGTON



Figure 1 Helicopter works in the triangle area

Crescent

Mountain/McLeod/Holman Fires:

NR IMT 1, IC Turman, is managing the 45,120-acre Crescent Mountain fire, the 22,511-acre [McLeod Fire](#), and the 297-acre Holman Fire, which are burning on the Methow Valley Ranger District of the Okanogan-Wenatchee NF. Both the McLeod and the Crescent Mountain fires are 35-percent contained. 106 homes are under Level 3 evacuations, 77 are in Level 2 and multiple others at the mouth of the Twisp River Valley remain in a Level 1.

- **Crescent Mountain:** The fire was active again today, and is well established in the Mission Mountain area. Infrared showed 812 acres of growth. Crews secured line on the upper end of the Twisp drainage. They also completed some key burning around structures in the triangle. Structure prep is occurring in the Libby Creek area. Yesterday, some firefighters were inserted in where the fire has moved into North Cascades NP. The team was doing an after action review of an incident within an incident exercise when an actual medical occurred. A crew member was seriously injured when he was struck in the chest by a rolling 20-inch log. In less than an hour, the injured firefighter packaged and transported to a hospital, where he remained today, but was expected to be released soon. Another person was transported for a days old injury. A public meeting is planned for Tuesday in Twisp. More information is at: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6093/>
- **McLeod Fire:** Crews continued tactical firing operations west of Goat Creek and on the north end of the 8-Mile Road to the 2017 Diamond Fire burned area. They are finding areas to go direct and keep the fire from moving south.

Cougar Creek/Bannock Lake/White Pine/Lost Fires: NW Team 10, IC Lawson, is managing four fires. Cougar Creek fire is reported at 42,104 acres 50% and Bannock Lake Fire is at 491 acres. The Lost Fire is contained. Crews today were prepping the northwest corner of the fire for a burnout operation. Most of the rest of the fire is in patrol, mop up and suppression repair. The Entiat River Road and campgrounds are open to the public for the holiday weekend. Cooperator meetings are on hold for the holiday weekend and will resume on Tuesday. The fire sent four crews to help with initial attack on the Crystal Fire near Wenatchee. The fire had a visit from a National Guard commander. A water tender had a non-injury accident en route to briefing this morning. More information is at <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6053/>

LARGE INCIDENTS - OREGON



Figure 2 Sikorsky Skycrane fills at heliwell

Klondike Fire: (SA Blue, IC Deuitt). A Red Flag Warning is still in effect for southwest Oregon, hampering efforts to conduct tactical firing operations along Wildhorse Road. The fire is at 106,318 acres and 40 percent contained (the 209 had a clerical error that shows on the morning report as 13% contained). Yesterday, fire spread was checked by a heavy air show with fixed wing and helicopters. Winds were steady at 15-20 and gusting to 25 mph yesterday, but gusts to 40 mph are in the forecast. Flying aviation resources, including the VLAT, again early in the day in the Silver Ridge and Indigo Creek area. A few Level 3 evacuations remain in place with Level

2 evacuation orders for the community of Agness. Five public information officers are staying in Agness to keep the community informed and to reduce risk of driving back and forth to Gold Beach. A closure remains for Bear Camp road. One incident occurred which was a car hitting a deer. More information is at: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5998/>.



Figure 3 Firefighter burning out along FS1986 road

Terwilliger Fire: NR Team, IC Connell is managing the 8,446-acre Terwilliger Fire with 23-percent containment. This fire is located on the Willamette National Forest near the Terwilliger (Cougar) Hot Springs and burning on both sides of Cougar Reservoir. A community meeting in Blue River Saturday had 49 people, largely supportive. Some questions were asked about how the team prioritizes which part of the fire to focus resources. Crews attempted to burnout along the 1986 road, but were unable to until evening when the humidity dropped and then they were able to burn until midnight. The Willamette National Forest expanded its closure area. RMAIT presented the trade-off analysis to the team and local unit today. A member of the IMT was transported for illness last night. Information can be found at <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6160/>



Figure 4 Installing a repeater on the Natchez Fire

Natchez Fire: NW Team 13 (IC Gales) is managing the 27,905-acre Natchez Fire, which is 70 percent contained. Growth yesterday was to the west out of the Copper Creek area. The fire area has a Haines Index of 5 and strong east winds forecast. The fire grew active in the Goat Rocks area today. Retardant was used on the west flank, but were unable to conduct firing operations due to adverse winds yesterday. Today crews had a short window to conduct some burnout on the west side. Evacuation levels remain the same, with 144 residents in a Level 1. NW Team 7, IC Knerr, was inbriefed today. The Klamath National Forest is extending the west side of the closure area to the Six Rivers NF. More information can be found at <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5948/>

Watson Creek – (NW Team 6, IC Sheldon) The 58,436-acre fire is 90% contained and burning 13 miles west of Paisley on the Fremont-Winema NF in an area of heavy standing dead, as well as down timber. The level 2 evacuations for Lakeview Estates were lowered to a Level 1 today. All other evacuation levels were lifted. The forest closure has been reduced in size. The team is scheduled to transfer the fire back to the local unit on Sept. 4. More information is available at: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6153/>

Taylor Creek (NW 12, IC Glazier) The fire is at 52,839 acres with 95 percent containment. Crews are assisting with suppression repair, including the removal of logs and water barring. All evacuation levels for the Taylor Creek Fire have been reduced to level 1. The road closures are also still in effect. The IMT will continue to work with local READs to determine rehabilitation needs into the future. The fire will transfer to a local type 3 team on Tuesday. One strained back was reported. More information is at the swojic.blogspot.com and <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6058/> for Taylor Creek.